

February 24, 2021

To: Director of Office of Child Care

Planned Use of CCDF Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSA), 2021 Funds Report

Direct Child Care Services (Subsidies): Does the lead agency plan to use CRRSA funds to provide direct child care services, including child care subsidy to health care sector employees, emergency responders, sanitation workers, farm and other food service workers, and/or workers deemed essential or frontline during the response to coronavirus? <u>YES</u>

- The Tribal Lead Agency (TLA) plans to assist workers deemed essential by the TLA and frontline employees as determined by the TLA and/or the state, by waiving the income eligibility requirements. (CCDF Plan 5.1.4a 1)
- The TLA plans to continue to waive copays for all families eligible for child care subsidy. (CCDF Plan 5.4.1f and g)
- The TLA plans to continue to support child care facilities by paying subsidy based on enrollment. (CCDF Plan 2.4.2) This will include facility closures due to COVID-19 exposures or concerns.
- The TLA plans to continue providing a secondary provider, for families whose primary child care services have been impacted by COVID-19. (CCDF Plan 3.1.1)
- The TLA plans to increase the daily child care rates by providing a temporary increase to assist centers during the COVID-19 Pandenuc.

Implementation of Virus Mitigation Policies and Procedures: Does the lead agency plan to use CRRSA funds to provide resources, supplies and/or technical assistance to child care providers to support implementation of health and safety practices and policies in line with guidance from State and local health departments and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)? <u>YES</u>

- The TLA plans to provide supplies to child care providers including, but not limited to, air purifiers, sanitizing sprayers, sanitizing supplies, and PPE to be used in the child care facilities.
- The TLA plans to provide training to support implementation of health and safety practices and policies that align with tribal, local and state health departments and clinics, and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC).



Grants or Assistance (Other than Subsidies) to Stabilize Child Care Providers: Does the lead agency plan to use CRRSA funds to support the stability of the child care sector to help child care providers (program facilities and workforce) pay for increased operating expenses during the COVID-19 public health emergency? <u>YES</u>

• The TLA plans to continue providing quality grants based on category of care, remaining operational during the COVID-19 pandemic, and/or number of CCDF children served, to support the stability of the child care sector.

Assistance to Providers Not Participating in the Subsidy System Prior to the Pandemic: As required in CRRSA, how does the lead agency plan to use a portion of funds appropriated in CRRSA to provide assistance to CCDF-eligible child care providers not participating in the subsidy system prior to the COVID-19 public health emergency? <u>YES</u>

- We are waiting for federal guidance to assist with the full implementation of this requirement, per information given during the national webinar.
- The "pre-guidance plan" is for the TLA to offer assistance to licensed, non-subsidized child care providers through PPE, sanitizing equipment and/or quality grants to child care providers not participating in the Osage Nation and state subsidy programs.
- The assistance will be based on collaboration with other TLA's, state agencies and federal guidance.

Other: Does the lead agency plan to use a portion of CRRSA child care funds for any other activities or assistance not described above? <u>YES</u>

- The TLA plans to increase quality and availability of early childhood educators by offering stipends and/or tuition, books and fees for those not already participating in the state programs.
- The TLA plans to assist our licensed child care providers with Outdoor Learning Environments, so providers have alternatives to learning and outdoor classrooms.
- The TLA plans to provide learning, cultural and language activities for families and child care centers experiencing quarantine, isolation or diminished opportunities, due to COVID-19.
- The TLA plans to provide quality outreach supplies for families who have been impacted by COVID-19.
- The TLA plans to reconfigure classrooms at TOC's to provide an increase in the square foot per child and to establish double door entrances to assist with the drop



off and pick up of children, based on recommendations and policies to slow the spread of COVID-19.

Thank you,		
/s/		
Christopher Standing	bear, Osage Nation Grants N	Ianagement